

~~IN THE CLAIMS:~~

Claims 1-60 (cancelled)

Claim 61. (currently amended) An iron type golf club head having a club head body and means for connection to a shaft; said club head body including a heel, toe, a ball striking face, a top ridge surface and bottom sole surface, wherein the improvement comprises:

a rear surface having an upper portion and a lower portion; said upper and lower portion extending entirely across said rear surface from adjacent said heel to adjacent said toe; said upper portion extending downwardly toward said bottom sole approximately midway between said top ridge and said bottom sole; said lower portion located below said upper portion and extending upwardly toward said top ridge approximately midway between said bottom sole and said top ridge; said lower portion including a heel to toe, elongated cavity located solely in said lower portion of said rear surface; said lower portion having a thickness between the lower surface of said elongated cavity and said ball striking face that is thinner than the thickness between the non-cavity portions and the ball striking face.

Claim 62. (New) An iron type golf club head having a club head body and means for connection to a shaft; said club head body including a heel, toe, a ball striking face, a top ridge surface and bottom sole surface, wherein the improvement comprises:

a rear surface having separate upper and lower portions; said upper portion and said lower portion extending across said rear surface from adjacent said heel to adjacent said toe; said upper portion extending downwardly toward said bottom sole approximately one-third the distance between said top ridge and said bottom sole;

said lower portion located below said upper portion and said lower portion being within an approximate lower two-thirds of said rear surface in a direction between said bottom sole and said top ridge; the one third upper portion and the two thirds lower portion relationship being maintained entirely across said rear surface from adjacent said heel to adjacent said toe;

    said lower portion including a heel to toe, elongated, perimeter weighted cavity located solely in said lower portion of said rear surface; said cavity extending from adjacent said heel to adjacent said toe;

    said upper portion being further defined as a non-perimeter weighted, blade type iron structure, having a generally uniform thickness from said heel to said toe;

    said lower portion having a thickness becoming progressively thicker as it extends from the upper portion toward said bottom sole;

D1     said club head having a thickness between said elongated cavity and said ball striking face that is thinner than the thickness between the non-cavity portions of said rear surface and said ball striking face.

Claim 63. (New) The iron type golf club head of claim 62 wherein said elongated, perimeter weighted cavity is formed with a lower surface, a bottom side wall, a toe side wall, a heel side wall and an upper side wall; said walls defining the outer perimeter of said elongated cavity.

Claim 64. (New) The iron type golf club head of claim 62 wherein said elongated cavity is recessed into said rear surface; said club head having a thickness between a lowermost surface of said elongated cavity and said ball striking face that is thinner than the thickness between the non-cavity portions of said rear surface and said ball striking face.

Claim 65. (New) The iron type golf club head of claim 62 wherein said elongated cavity is recessed into said rear surface; said club head having a maximum thickness between an entire lower surface of said elongated cavity and said ball striking face that is thinner than the thickness between the non-cavity portions of said rear surface and said ball striking face.

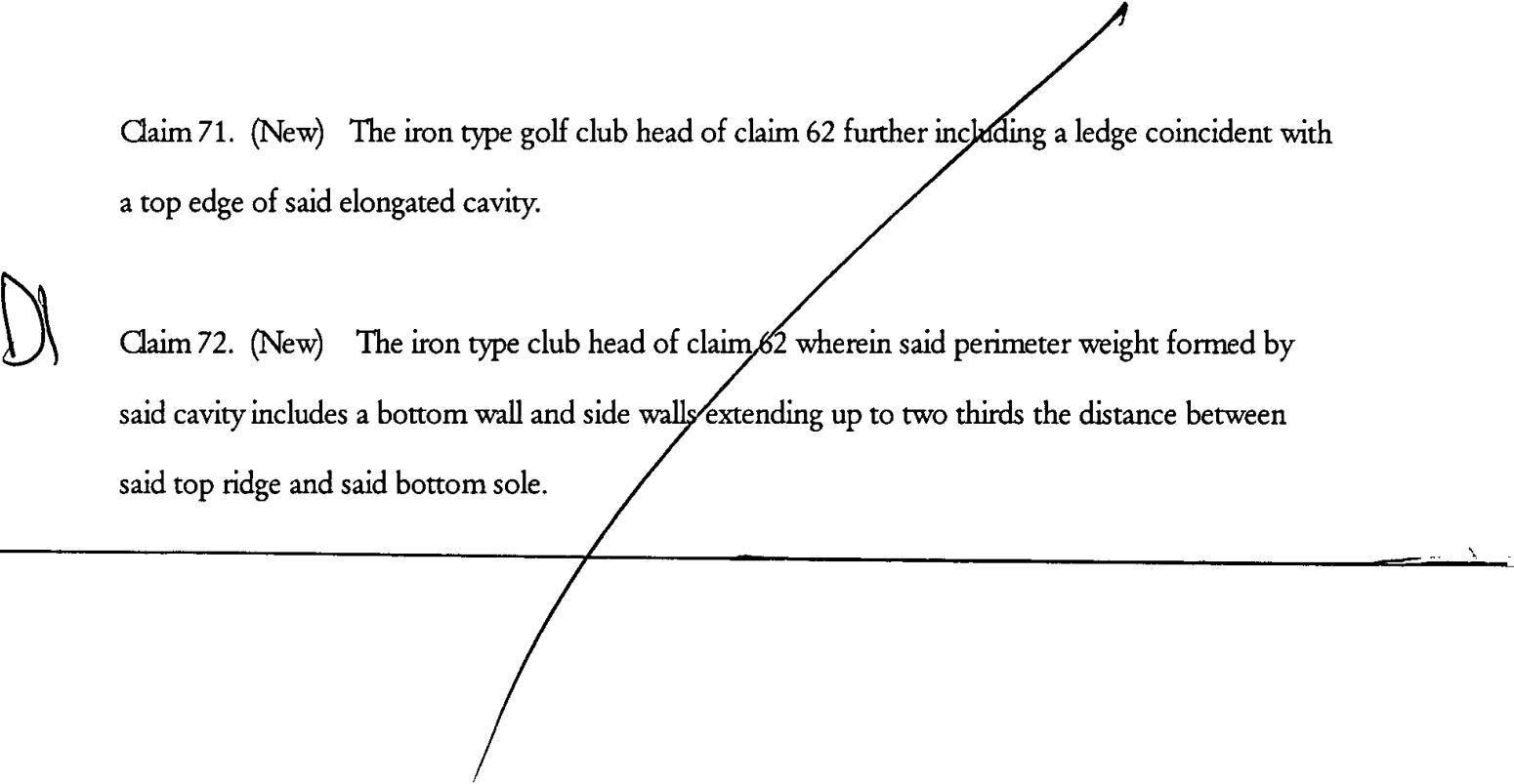
Claim 66. (New) The iron type golf club head of claim 62 wherein the said upper portion of said rear surface is adjacent to a top edge of said elongated, perimeter weighted cavity in said lower portion of said rear surface.

01 Claim 67. (New) The iron type golf club head of claim 62 wherein said rear surface further includes a mass extending in a heel to toe direction between said upper portion and said elongated, perimeter weighted cavity in said lower portion of said rear surface.

Claim 68. (New) The iron type golf club head of claim 62 wherein a bottom edge of said upper portion is defined by a ledge coincident with a top edge of said elongated, perimeter weighted cavity.

Claim 69. (New) The iron type golf club head of claim 62 wherein an insert material is located within said elongated, perimeter weighted cavity.

Claim 70. (New) The iron type golf club head of claim 62 further including a weighted mass on said rear surface located within said elongated, perimeter weighted cavity.



Claim 71. (New) The iron type golf club head of claim 62 further including a ledge coincident with a top edge of said elongated cavity.

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Claim 72. (New) The iron type club head of claim 62 wherein said perimeter weight formed by said cavity includes a bottom wall and side walls extending up to two thirds the distance between said top ridge and said bottom sole.